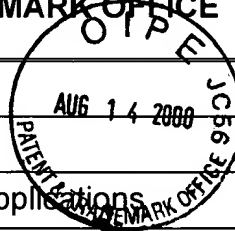


3731

PATENT
02581-P0045A WWW/YBK

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Hubert Manhes
Serial No. 09/214,875	Filing Date: April 19, 1999
Title of Application	Trocar Sleeve For Endoscopic Applications
Group Art Unit 3731	Examiner W. Lewis



DB
8-22

#16/E

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Response to Official Action

Dear Sir:

In response to the Official Action of May 8, 2000, Applicant submits the following Amendment and Remarks.

Amendment

Please amend the specification as follows:

Page 5, line 18, after "lines," insert "Each of the sections is provided with a blade 10, that may be made integrally with the blade, so that longitudinal sections have a common tip) as well."

line 19, change "piercing" to "--cutting--."

How can a tip, cut, puncture, pierce

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Mailing Certificate: I hereby certify that this correspondence is today being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents and Trademarks; Washington, DC 20231.

August 7, 2000

Alice M. Wright